

C. Remarks

Based on the above amendments and remarks to follow, reconsideration of this application and entry of this amendment under Rule 116 is respectfully requested.

In the second and final office action, claims 1-5, 7-11, 22 and 23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101, as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. By this amendment, claims 1, 4, 7, 10, 22 and 23 have been amended, to direct them to a practical application.

With respect to the rejection of claims 1 and 7 under 35 U.S.C. 101, the Office Action states that claims 1 and 7 do not recite the method for a practical application. Claims 1 and 7 have been amended by incorporating the statement "*providing the random number 'n' to an encryption system, based on the result of the extension ring test*", to direct claims 1 and 7 to a practical application. The support for this recitation is found on page 6, lines 3-6.

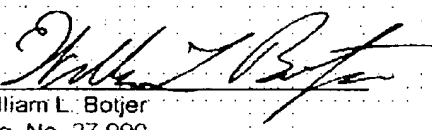
With respect to the rejection of claims 4, 10, 22 and 23 under 35 U.S.C. 101, the Office Action states that claims 4, 10, 22 and 23 do not recite the method/computer program product for a practical application. Claims 4, 10, 22 and 23 have been amended by incorporating the statement "*providing the random number 'n' to an encryption system if the random number 'n' is declared to be prime in the extension ring test*", to direct claims 4, 10, 22 and 23 to a practical application. The support for this recitation is found on page 6, lines 3-6. The word "*providing*" has been used as a generalized output step to comply with 35 U.S.C. 101.

The claims dependent upon claims 4, 10, 22 and 23 are also now allowable. In light of the amendments made above, claims 1-5, 7-11 and 22-23 are now allowable.

If the Examiner has any questions regarding this matter, the Examiner is requested to telephone the applicants' attorney at the numbers listed below, prior to issuing an advisory action.

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Respectfully Submitted,

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